THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The need to grant more autonomy to scientific institutions has been discussed at various for a and it has been felt that scientific instutitions require more autonomy in the country for providing better opportunities to the scientific community to pursue their R&D.

(b) The Government has set up specialized cells/centre/units in its different departments and agencies, which provide technical, financial, and legal help to scientists for protecting their inventive works in India and other countries. Intellectual property right, so generated, are maintained by these cells/centre/units. The ownership of such patents resides with the concerned institutions and scientists' names appear as inventers in the patent documents.

(c) The deemed university status would give impetus to CSIR to produce specialized scientific human resource in selected frontier areas and to undertake scientific industrial research as a career. Such an opportunity to work on the frontier and inter-disciplinary areas is likely to attract the best of the young minds.

Setting up of biotechnology centre

228. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have set up a biotechnology centre under the auspices of UNESCO and sponsored by the Department of Biotechnology and the Ministry;

(b) in what way, the proposed institute is going to protect the patents in biotechnology, help in having a strong database on sharing genetic resources as well as traditional knowlege;

(c) whether it is also a fact that institute is going to offer PG courses; and

(d) if so, the details thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) A proposal from the Department of Biotechnology to set up a Regional Centre for education

and training in biotechnology in India under the auspices of UNESCO was approved by the General Conference, UNESCO in October, 2005. The formal agreement would be entered between the host country and UNESCO for setting up of the Centre. The Governing Body of the Centre would deliberate on the issues related to IPR/patent, P.G. courses, etc.

Setting up of Bio-IT Park

229. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are looking for a suitable location for the proposed world's first Bio-IT Park project being promoted jointly by M/s ITCO and Department of Bio-Technology;

(b) if so, whether Government would assure of considering Hyderabad as a suitable location for this prestigious world's first Bio-IT Park in view of Hyderabad already housing the best IT companies such as Microsoft, Oracle, Satyam, Wipro, Infosys and GE and leading world's research institutes such as International Crops Research Institute for Semi Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT) and Hyderabad being the Pharma Capital of India; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal to set up a Bio-IT park promoted jointly by M/s. ITCO and Department of Biotechnology.

(b) and (c) The Department of Information Technology (DIT) and Department of Biotechnology (DBT) have designed a project for Bio-IT Park to be set up in the form of a Public-Private partnership. The selected private promoter would decide the location of the Bio-IT Park from a short list of six locations viz National Capital Region (NCR), Kolkata, Pune, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Chennai.